

It is a great honor to recognize Angie Nanni for her service to our nation throughout her life. May she inspire others to recognize their true potential to make a difference in the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I unfortunately was unable to attend the scheduled vote series on Monday, September 9, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 515 and yea on Roll Call No. 516.

RECOGNIZING FORMER CAPITOL HILL STAFFERS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of former Capitol Hill staffers who will gather in Washington on September 20–22 to celebrate 40 years of bipartisan friendship.

Whether competing in softball and flag football matchups, celebrating victories over burgers at the Tune Inn, Christmas caroling with Leader Michel and his colleagues, enjoying weekend road trips to national parks and historic sites, there were always respectful and lively debates on the issues of the day. Accordingly, this group of friends shares a special bond that began right here in these hallowed halls and continues today.

Many of these congressional staffers began their careers in 1979, working over the years for the following Members: Representatives Wendell Bailey, Larry Craig, Dan Crane, Phil Crane, Ed Derwinski, David Emery, Billy Lee Evans, Joe Gaydos, Bo Ginn, Larry Hopkins, Dan Lungren, Ray McGrath, Dawson Mathis, Bob Michel, HAL ROGERS, Jim Slattery, Gene Taylor, Bob Whittaker, Henry Waxman, and Vin Weber, and Senators Jake Garn, John Glenn, Jesse Helms, Sam Nunn, Bob Packwood and Richard Stone.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize this lasting friendship that began right here in the halls of Congress, and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing this special group well as they remember fondly their days on Capitol Hill and their years of fellowship and fun.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH ANTHONY KARCUTSKIE ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE LUZERNE COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor former athlete Joseph Anthony

Karcutskie. This year, Joe was inducted into the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame on August 11, 2019 for his impressive athletic achievements in the sport of football.

Each year, the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame honors those who have brought fame and recognition to the state of Pennsylvania through their outstanding achievements and contributions in athletic endeavors.

While at Wyoming Area High School, Joe was a three-year starter in football, team captain, All-Conference, All-Scholastic, and All-Region on defense during his junior year. During his senior year, he was All-Conference and All-Scholastic on offense, defense, and as a punter. This awe-inspiring athlete led his team in the number of tackles, sacks, and in punting average.

Joe's high school career was incredibly impressive, but it was only the beginning. He continued his education at Brown University where he started every collegiate game as middle linebacker. During his junior year, he was named All-American. Still rising to fame, he was voted team captain during his senior year and was voted All-Ivy League in 1995, 1996, and 1997. During the same year, he was also voted All-New England. Joe still holds the Brown record for tackles in a season with 137, and he also holds the Brown record for tackles in a career with 404. Joe was the first player ever to record more than 100 tackles in two seasons and is still the only player to lead the team in tackles in three consecutive seasons.

Joe was named a member of Brown University's 125th Anniversary Team in 2003, inducted into the Wyoming Area Football Ring of Pride in 2004, and was welcomed into the Brown University Athletic Hall of Fame in 2014.

In addition to enjoying a prestigious athletic career, he is currently a Vice President of Investments at Wells Fargo Advisors. He also coaches his son's baseball team and has been a volunteer coach for soccer and the Wyoming Area football team.

It is an honor to recognize Joe on his induction into the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame. May his story and athletic career serve as an inspiration to the next generation of Pennsylvania athletes striving for excellence.

DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2019

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from the DERA Coalition in support of H.R. 1768 on the Diesel Emission Reduction Act.

DIESEL EMISSION REDUCTION ACT (DERA) COALITION

PLEASE SUPPORT ONE OF THE NATION'S MOST EFFECTIVE CLEAN AIR PROGRAMS

When it comes to improving air quality for communities across the country, one of the most effective strategies is to replace older heavy-duty vehicles and equipment with new and much cleaner options. That is the goal of the Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) program managed by U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency (EPA). We urge you to support continuation of the program as provided under Matsui-Long reauthorization bill (H.R. 1768) which would deliver vital air quality improvements to your constituents.

Four out of every ten Americans reside in a region with unhealthy air, according to EPA. The American Lung Association estimates that air quality for many regions around the country is not improving. DERA helps communities clean up their air by replacing older trucks, buses, and equipment with newer, cleaner technologies. Replacing just one Class 8 truck with a new model can eliminate tons of emissions. DERA also enjoys broad bipartisan support, along with support from a long list of business interests and environmental and health advocates, including those signatories below.

According to the EPA's latest report to Congress on the program issued in July of this year, since DERA's funding was first appropriated in 2008, more than 67,000 vehicles and engines have been upgraded or replaced, delivering \$19 billion in direct health benefits. Those benefits include eliminating 15,490 tons of fine particles and 427,700 tons of nitrogen oxides, a smog forming compound. That works out to just about the same emission reductions as taking more than 236 million cars off the road for a year.

The program provides just enough funding to encourage owners to make a smart investment in their purchase of cleaner and often more fuel-efficient vehicles and equipment. As a result, every \$1 in public funds appropriated through the DERA program is leveraged with an additional \$3 in nonfederal funds, generating between \$11 and \$30 in public health benefits and an additional \$2 in fuel savings.

While DERA has been around since 2008, there still is much to be done. Heavy-duty trucks and off-road equipment are built to last, meaning a large fleet of older and higher emitting trucks remain in service. Only four in ten trucks on the road today is equipped with technologies to achieve the latest near-zero tailpipe emissions standard set by EPA. Research shows that off-road equipment, including locomotives, are of an even older generation technology and will be in the field for decades to come. DERA provides the funding needed to incentivize the replacement of those older and higher emitting vehicles and equipment. The program is voluntary, competitive, and technology neutral, allowing funding to be used for projects, advanced locally, that provide the highest benefits for the amount of funding requested.

The Diesel Emission Reduction Act has proved to be one of the most effective tools to generate short-term air quality and health benefits for local communities across the country, but those benefits cannot be sustained without proper funding. We encourage you to support extending the authorization of this cost-effective and environmentally impactful program for an additional five years as provided for under the bill.

Sincerely,

Alabama State Port Authority, American Association of Port Authorities, American Highway Users Alliance, American Lung Association, American Trucking Associations, Associated General Contractors of America, BorgWarner Inc., Clean Air Task Force, Cook—Illinois Corporation, Corning Incorporated,

Cummins Inc., DENSO International America, Inc., Diesel Technology Forum, Emissions Control Technology Association, Engine Manufacturers Association, Environmental Defense Fund, Faurecia Clean Mobility, The Lion Electric Co., Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association, Massachusetts Port Authority.